WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sharpening means for a drilling tool (2) having grinding segments (3) set with hard material and filled with abrasive materials (6), wherein the sharpening means is chordlike.

2. The sharpening means of claim 1, wherein the sharpening means is cut to length from a supply roll (8).

3. The sharpening means of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of intended break zones (9) along the chordlike length.

4. The sharpening means of claim 1, further comprising a matrix (7) filled with abrasive materials (6).

5. The sharpening means of claim 3, further comprising a tube (10) that is filled with loose abrasive materials.

6. The sharpening means of claim 5, wherein the tube (10) is filled with a polymer (11) that swells on contact with water.

7. The sharpening means of claim 1, having a thickness in the range of 1 mm to 10 mm.

8. The use of a sharpening means (1) of claim1 for re-sharpening grinding segments (3) of a drilling tool (2).

9. A method for sharpening a drilling tool (2) with grinding segments (3) set with hard material, wherein, in a first step, the drilling tool (2) produces a blind borehole (4), in a second step, a chordlike configured sharpening means (1) is installed circumferential and, in a third step, the sharpening means (1) is compressed by the grinding segments (3) of the drilling tool

(2) against the floor (5) of the blind borehole (4) and, in a last step, the sharpening means is abrasively frictionally re-sharpened against a grinding means.

10. The sharpening method of claim 9, wherein, in the last step, at least one of a lower r.p.m. and less cooling water supply is used relative to the normal use of the drilling tool (2).

11. The sharpening means of claim 4, wherein the matrix (7) is a soft plastic matrix.

12. The sharpening means of claim 1, having a thickness in the range of 2 mm to 6 mm.

13. The sharpening means of claim 5,wherein the tube (10) is a water-insoluble tube.